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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

February 19, 2015

Spring Starts March 20!

[Donate Now](#)

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INSIDE THIS EDITION

Salty Roads

Stream Sampling

Oyster Reef Balls

Give the Gift of a
Living Reef for
St. Patrick's Day



Really GO GREEN this year. Give a satisfying gift for a healthier St. Mary's River on St. Patrick's Day! One Reef Ball will be etched with your name and installed in the St. Mary's River where up to 1000 oysters will make it their home. [Download form:](#)

What happens to the Salt That is dumped on the Roads?

As I drive around looking at all the mounds of snow, I found myself wondering how bad is all that salt for the environment, and where does it go? I did find an interesting article on that subject.

This year, there has not been a lot of snow storms, thankfully, and the biggest one waited until about a month before spring starts. Hopefully, there won't be many more this winter.



Check out the article here:
<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/what-happens-to-all-the-salt-we-dump-on-the-roads-180948079/?no-ist>

There's not a lot we can do about the salt that is dumped on the roads and bound for streams and rivers as runoff, but when you think about the water that falls on your property during the year, there is something you can do to keep it from becoming runoff.

Rain gardens. St. Mary's River Watershed Association has received a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and is looking for homeowners in our watershed to partner with to install rain gardens. Keeping the water that falls on your property from running into nearby streams is helpful in eliminating toxins and sediment that pollute and clog the rivers and bay.

Please call 301-737-2903 or contact Bob Lewis at [Bob Lewis@stmarysriver.org](mailto:BobLewis@stmarysriver.org) for more information.

[or purchase online.](#)

[Please email us today!](#)

Stream Sampling Call for Volunteers

**TBD March through
April 2015**

Bob will take small groups of volunteers into the field to collect benthic animals in partnership with the Maryland Stream Waders program. Hip boots or waders are required. Under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Email Bob to get on his schedule.

Bob.Lewis@stmarysriver.org

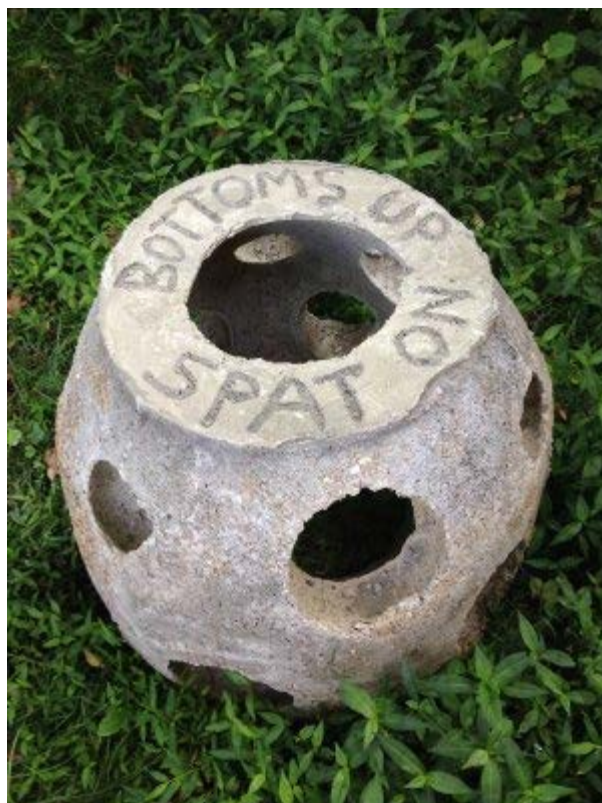


Check out [Maryland Stream Waters](#) for more information.

Give an Oyster Reef Ball for St. Patrick's Day

Check out rereefthebay.org - there is more information in this website about artificial oyster reefs, and the work that has gone into them. St. Mary's River Watershed Association is continuing to add to the reefs in Horseshoe Bend. In addition to the 500-or so already in the river, there are well over 50 reef balls inscribed with names of loved ones, favorite teams, favorite sayings, and more!

Surprise your loved one this year with an Oyster Reef Ball inscribed with their name. Many people have donated a reef ball with "In Memory Of . . ." inscribed on it. Your reef ball will be a lasting gift to a healthier St. Mary's River! See the sidebar for more information.



Upcoming Events:

- **STREAM SAMPLING**
TBD
March thru April 2015
Email Bob to get on the schedule
Bob.Lewis@stmarysriver.org
- Join us for the
7th Annual
RIVER CLEAN UP
Saturday, April 11, 2015
9 am to noon
Paddling event
Call to register to volunteer at
info@stmarysriver.org
- **Earth Day on the Leonardtown Square**
Sunday, April 19, 2015
12:30 - 4:00 pm
- **Youth Fishing Rodeo**
Saturday, May 9, 2015
St. Mary's River State Park
- **Potomac River Swim**
Saturday, June 6, 2015
Point Lookout State Park
Bring a dish to share -
lunch begins at 10:00 am
More info 301-737-2903.
- **National Envirothon Oyster Planting**
Monday, June 15, 2015
9:00 am to noon
College Waterfront
- **SAVE THE DATE**



Saturday, September 26, 2015
11:00 am to 4:00 pm
State House,
Historic St. Mary's City
More info 301-737-2903



OUR MISSION

To protect, improve, and promote the sustainability of the St. Mary's River Watershed through the collaborative efforts of economic, agricultural, environmental, social, cultural, and political stakeholders in the community.

We're on the web!
www.smrwa.org



[Join or Renew Today!](#)

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